



News From

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MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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IRONDEQUOIT BAY OUTLET BRIDGE TO OPEN FOR VEHICLES ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1st

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today announced that the Irondequoit Bay Outlet Bridge (IBOB) will be open to vehicular traffic on Friday, November 1st. The structure will remain open to traffic for five months and is scheduled to close on April 1, 2003. Doyle has been working with the Coast Guard to gain authorization for the November 1st opening and this is the first year the Coast Guard has granted approval.

"Opening the bridge earlier will provide area residents additional convenience and also help promote the economic vitality of the restaurants and shops along the Seabreeze corridor. Most importantly, the bridge will continue to address the public safety concerns of community residents and area motorists during the winter, while meeting the needs of boaters and public access to Irondequoit Bay during warm weather months."

On October 2, 2002, Monroe County received authorization from the United States Coast Guard to extend the dates the bridge will be open for vehicle traffic by an additional month (letter attached). Since its completion in the winter of 1998, the Irondequoit Bay Outlet Bridge has been open for vehicle traffic from December 1 through March 31. The bridge, which connects the Towns of Irondequoit and Webster, is designed to span the outlet for vehicular traffic during cold weather months and is removed during the boating season.

IBOB is maintained and operated by the Monroe County Department of Transportation (DOT). County DOT operates the bridge in conformity with permits granted by the United States Coast Guard. When not in use for vehicular traffic, the bridge offers area residents an overlook access area and other passive recreation opportunities along the outlet of Irondequoit Bay.

The process to put the bridge in place takes approximately three hours. Weather conditions permitting, it is anticipated that the bridge will be in place for vehicle traffic around 4 p.m. on Friday, November 1, 2002.

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For further information, call:
Communications at 428-2380
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